

# A Self-Guided Walking Tour of the Historic Northwest Neighborhood

## Cottage Grove, Oregon



11 1038 Ash Ave.



12 1010 Birch



14 39 I St.



18 823 Birch Ave.



19 207 H St.



10 1142 Ash Ave.



13 904 Ash Ave.



15 835 Ash Ave



16 138 H St.



20 740 Birch Ave.



9 105 L St.



8 119 L St.



7 1308 Ash Ave.



6 1301 W. Main St.



5 1206 W. Main St.



4 1104 W. Main St.



3 1028 W. Main St.



2 1009 W. Main St.

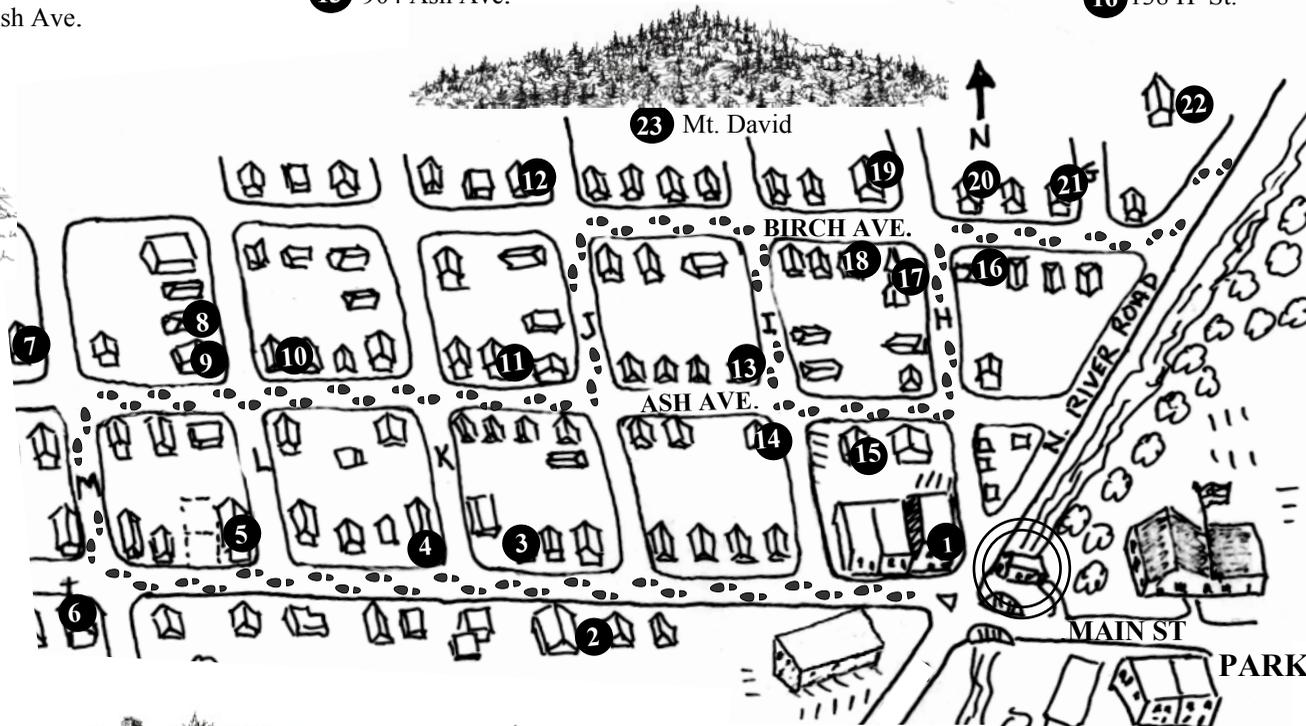


21 704 Birch Ave.



22 628 Birch Ave.

1 820 W. Main St.



Cottage Grove Museum

17 147 H Street

Illustrations and map by Sujo Tryk



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## Welcome to the Northwest Neighborhood!

Located at the southern foot of McFarland Butte – commonly referred to as Mt. David – Cottage Grove’s Northwest Neighborhood was established in 1853 by several land grants that were subsequently divided and ultimately sold to David Henry McFarland who platted the neighborhood. This is one of Cottage Grove’s first neighborhoods and the streets and blocks are still laid out exactly as they were originally platted in 3 additions beginning 1891.

Most of the earliest homes were built on corners and usually occupied a quarter block-sized lot. Many of these homes were built between 1895 and 1915 in the Queen Anne style – mostly vernacular with a few “high style” types. Several dozen of those original homes still stand in the neighborhood today. Of particular note is the intersection at Birch and H St. All the structures on these four corners date from the early 1900s and stand today as they did in a photograph taken from Mt. David circa 1906.

Later, the lots were subdivided. Between the corner lots you will generally find smaller, often bungalow, pyramid or cottage style homes built in the 1920s-1940s. Of the 263 homes in the neighborhood, 224 were built before 1950, therefore 85% of the Northwest Neighborhood is considered historic. We hope you enjoy this walking tour.

Starting from Centennial Bridge at the corner of W. Main St. and N. River Road

### 1 820 W. Main St. – The Eakin-Bristow Mercantile

Built circa 1896, the Eakin-Bristow building was one of the first commercial buildings in Cottage Grove. It housed a mercantile, Cottage Grove’s first bank and served as the armory. Originally a one story building, in 1910 a second story was added and served as the Masonic Hall. Many social events were held in the expansive space on the second floor. The corner entryway is typical of commercial buildings of the period.

### 2 1009 W. Main St. - The Brennan House

This home is easy to spot in early panoramic photographs taken of the neighborhood from Mt. David. Elizabeth Rohde lived here until 1966 when the Caans purchased the property. Later the property was a rental. In 2007, it was purchased by the Brennans, who say the spirits of past residents still reside here doing small repairs around the house, since things seem to “fix themselves.”

### 3 1028 W. Main St. – The Mitchell House

Built in 1900, by 1978, this home was in complete disrepair and ready for demolition. As is the case with many of the historic homes in the neighborhood, the current owner has diligently restored this house.

### 4 1104 W. Main St. – The Keitzer House

This shingle style house was built circa 1902. For more than a decade beginning in 1910, local jeweler Hans Madsen lived here. From 1928 through 1958 the Keitzer family had a small auto repair shop in an out building attached to the garage. It was later used for a saw shop and recently burned to the ground.

### 5 1206 W. Main – The Daugherty House

The only “modern” house on this tour, lumber businessman, Warren Daugherty built this unique home in the International Style in 1940.

Even though it was on the Daugherty’s private property, the family kept the adjoining tennis court open for use by neighbors. A quiet philanthropist who shunned the limelight, Mr. Daugherty funded the Daugherty Aquatic Center, donated the land on which Bohemia School was built and built the First Presbyterian Church, a unique building on 2nd and Adams Street.

### 6 1301 W. Main St. – The St. Andrews Episcopal Church

This Gothic Revival style church was built in 1920 as a Seventh Day Adventist Church. It became an Episcopal Church in 1950.

### 7 1308 Ash Ave. - The Shinn House

This unique adaptation of a Queen Anne style home was built in 1904. The bays, dormers, octagonal turret and variety of porches are characteristic of the eclectic strain of the Queen Anne architecture style and distinguish this home from other Queen Anne style houses in the area. Note the rectangular veranda and decorative glass windows. Judge Horace J. Shinn purchased the house in 1906 for his daughter Ilma Beager Thum, who was the principal at the West Side School, at that time located a block away on Birch and M Street. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998.

### 8 119 L St. - The Veatch House

Built circa 1903 by John W. Veatch, who grazed sheep on Mt. David, the construction of this home’s roof line and eaves are reminiscent of a 19th century train depot. The house is a simplified stick style home with Bungalow-like elements. Note the boxed eaves, rustic siding, corner boards, and frieze that also serves as a head trim for the windows.

### 9 105 L St. – The Taylor House

Built circa 1903, by 1910, the Riggs family lived here. Mr. Riggs was a carpenter. Note the 5 styles of decorative shingles and fretwork on the gables. Dick Stuges who owned Sturges Garage, lived here for many years.

### 10 1142 Ash Ave. – The Seidel House

Like most of the first homes in the neighborhood, this Gothic Revival home originally occupied a quarter of a block. It is one of a few homes of this style in the neighborhood. Beginning in 1912, the Olaf Olson family lived here. Mr. Olson owned a paint store downtown. Later, a sausage maker at Bartell’s Meat Market and a clerk at the Cade Cigar Store (which stood on the northeastern corner of W. Main St. And River Rd.) lived here.

### 11 1038 Ash Ave. – The Metcalf - Johnson House

This home was built in 1918 in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. It originally stood at the corner of Q and W. Main St. The Metcalf family who started Sunnyside Greenhouses and Nursery, which is still located in the Northwest Neighborhood on Q St., built the house. The home and nursery were sold to the Workman family who moved the house to its present location in early 1940s.

### 12 1010 Birch Ave. - The Kebelback House

This Italianate-style home was built by Michael Kebelbeck, one of the founders of the original Catholic Church that at the time was located in the neighborhood in the octagonal building that still stands on the corner of Birch and H St. This well kept home features a traditional “widow’s walk” on the roof, and is the only home left with this architectural enhancement in the neighborhood.

### 13 904 Ash – The Aanrud – Snell House

This Queen Anne style home was built circa 1900. In 1912, Umphrey & Mackin Dry Goods storeowner, Clyde Umphrey bought the home. Later, the Aanrud family purchased the home and since then, five generations of Aanruds have lived here. By the 1990s, the house had fallen into disrepair and was purchased by the Burcher

family who completely restored it. It was then sold to its current owner, Mr. Aanrud’s granddaughter, who remembers visiting the home many times when she was a child.

### 14 39 I St. – The J.I. Jones House

Built circa 1895 this Queen Anne style home was built by Crampton Jones for his son, J.I. Jones, a local sawmill owner, president of the Leader Publishing Company, publisher of the Cottage Grove Echo Leader and first mayor of Cottage Grove. In 1895 the local newspaper called it the finest example of its type in this part of Oregon and the home set the standard for other houses of this style in the neighborhood. Note the wrap around porch and ornate woodwork that is typical of this style. The round decorative window, from the dismantled First Baptist Church, was recently added. In 1920 David McFarland’s cousins, Frank and Elizabeth McFarland, purchased the home. For more than a decade, beginning in the 1930’s, David McFarland’s cousins, Elizabeth and Frank McFarland, ran a maternity home here. Locals often refer to it as “the birthing house.”

### 15 835 Ash Ave. – The Monsen-Daniels House

Built in 1915, this craftsman style home was moved to this location from the northeast corner of Ash Ave. and H St. in the 1940s. Note the exposed rafter tails, knee braces, front gable form and front porch that are typical of the craftsman style.

### 16 138 H St. – The Venice House

Built around 1900 in the Queen Anne style, the original round window on the north wall is unique to this home. The home originally faced to the north on Birch Ave. Between 1903 and 1907, the entire house was turned to its current western facing orientation. In the early 1900s, Charles Edward Jones lived in the house and later became the postmaster. Past owners of this home include a former mayor and a manager of JC Penney. The current owners have owned this property since 1966.

### 17 147 H St. – The Cottage Grove Historical Museum (formerly Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church)

Built in 1897 as the first Catholic Church in Cottage Grove, this unique octagonal structure is patterned after a small church in Germany. Note the original stained glass windows imported from Italy. The parish moved to a new building in 1961. The old church building was purchased by the Historical Society, then deeded it to the City of Cottage Grove for use as a museum. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### 18 823 Birch Ave. – The Old Catholic Church Rectory

Built between 1907 and 1912, this foursquare style house was home to the parish priest from the neighboring church for nearly 50 years. Extra bedrooms were rented, often to schoolteachers. The house first came into private ownership in 1962 and has remained so.

### 19 207 H St. - The Zimmerly/Veley House

Built around 1900, the Brewers, Alvin, Emma and their four children were the earliest known family to live in this Queen Anne home. The second story covered balcony is unique. Alvin was a clerk in the Cottage Grove Flour Mill. From 1934-1953 the Zimmerly family lived here. Mr. Zimmerly was one of four men who started Hidden Valley Golf Course, located at the foot of the north side of Mt. David. Later, the City of Cottage Grove purchased the property with a federal block grant to be used as a community center and city park. The building is now leased from the city by the Genealogy Society to use as their library.

### 20 740 Birch Ave. – The Longfellow House

This Queen Anne style home was built in 1902 and still sits on its original plat. The Longfellow family has owned this house for over

70 years. Mrs. Longfellow was a descendent of Robert M. Veatch, who was an early mayor of Cottage Grove, and in 1872, was elected to the Oregon State Legislature where he served several terms in both houses. Mr. Veatch’s home still stands at 653 South River Road. This house is a twin with the Boundary House, just down the block to the east at 704 Birch Ave.

### 21 704 Birch Ave. – The Boundary House

This Queen Anne style house, known as the Boundary House because it straddles the boundaries of the James Henry McFarland and Henry Small Donation Land Claims, was built in 1900. Note the original diamond, octagon, half cove, fish-scale and square shingles on the upper story. The Drury family who owned a local plumbing and electrical supply company for more than 40 years occupied the home. This house is a twin with the Longfellow house, just down the block to the west at 740 Birch Ave.

### 22 628 Birch Ave. - The David McFarland House

This was the first house in the neighborhood. Built circa 1866 by David McFarland on his father’s original 1853 donation land claim, this Queen Anne style home is over 150 years old and still has the original chimney and interior fireplace complete with the original cooking rod. For more than 30 years the Kent family, who owned a grocery store on Main Street downtown, occupied the home. The Kents were known for hosting large community dinners on the front lawn of this property. The current owner has lived here for nearly 40 years.

### 23 McFarland Butte (Mt. David)

McFarland Butte serves as the northern border of the Northwest Neighborhood. Named after David McFarland, the owner of the land upon which the Northwest Neighborhood was platted, and whose house still stands at 628 Birch Ave., this natural landmark is commonly referred to Mt. David. It is sacred to the Kalapuya Indians who were the First People to occupy this area.

Later, when the settlers arrived, the mountain was used as a community playground. Generations of children sledded on it in winter. In summer it was a land of adventure. Motorcycle races, which drew huge crowds, were held on the mountain’s steep eastern slope. Famously, in the 1920s a charlatan named Reverend Olson convinced townspeople to drill for oil atop the mountain. Once the oil derrick was built, using thousands of dollars “invested” by locals, Mr. Olson and the money disappeared. Needless to say, oil was never found, but the hole where the oil well was is still there.

The McFarland Cemetery, originally the family graveyard of the McFarland Family, still stands on the northern portion of Mt. David’s eastern slope and contains the graves of many original pioneer families.

## Credits:

This walking tour was researched and written by Friends of Mt. David, a group of neighbors and friends that promotes Northwest Neighborhood involvement in community planning.

It is beautifully illustrated by local artist Sujo Tryk who specializes in pen and ink drawings of the historic homes of Cottage Grove. The research was reviewed by two of Cottage Grove’s prominent local historians, Marcia Allen and Joanne Skelton.

Friends of Mt. David would like to thank Carl Williams, a graduate student in the University of Oregon’s School of Architecture and Allied Arts Historic Preservation Program, for his invaluable contribution to the architectural descriptions of the homes featured on this tour.